

as well as security thereof based on a barcode and a tag attached to said commodity, said system comprising:

a reader for reading the barcode;

a deactivator provided [near the] downstream [side] from said reader for deactivating the tag after the barcode is read by the reader;

a detector provided [near the] downstream [side] from said deactivator for detecting effectivity of the tag; and

a notifying unit for notifying an operator of a detection result by said detector.

A2 2. (Amended) A commodity information management system for managing commodity as well as security thereof based on a barcode and [a] an activated tag attached to said commodity, said system comprising:

a reader for reading the barcode;

a deactivator provided [near the] downstream [side] from said reader for deactivating the tag after the barcode is read by the reader;

a detector provided [near the] downstream [side] from said deactivator for detecting magnetism of the tag; and

a notifying unit for notifying an operator of a detection result by said detector.

3. (Amended) A commodity information management system according to Claim 2[;], wherein the notifying unit notifies an operator of the detection result with light.

4. (Amended) A commodity information management system according to Claim 2[;], wherein the notifying unit notifies an operator of the detection result with sound.

Sub 2
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5. (Amended) A commodity information management system according to Claim 2[;], further comprising:

a host terminal for controlling the operation of the entire system; and

a reporting unit for reporting the result of detection to said host terminal.

6. (Amended) A commodity information management system according to Claim 5[;], wherein said reporting unit outputs the notification result to said host terminal as an electronic data.

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7. (Amended) A commodity information management system according to Claim 2[;], further comprising:

a host terminal for controlling the operation of the entire system;

a determining unit for determining whether or not the security tag has been deactivated [or not] according to the detection result; and

a control unit for making a report, when it is determined by said determining unit that the tag has not been deactivated, to the effect that the security is not released to the host terminal, and also sending a notice to the effect that a retry of checking deactivation of the tag is requested to the operator.

8. (Amended) A commodity information management system according to Claim 7[;],

wherein said control unit enables, among said reader and said detector, only the function of said detector during the period of time since the request of the retry is notified until said determining unit determines that the security tag is deactivated.

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9. (Amended) A commodity information management system having a barcode reader for reading a barcode, comprising:

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an output unit for outputting, when the barcode is read by the barcode reader, a deactivating section-drive signal for driving a deactivating section which deactivates a security tag attached to commodity;

a magnetic detector for detecting the magnetic field of the security tag; and

a notifying unit for sending a notice to the operator when magnetism of the security tag is detected by said magnetic detector after said deactivating section is driven.

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application, all of which have been amended. No new claims have been added.

The Examiner has objected to the Abstract and claims 1-2 for minor informalities which have been corrected in the aforementioned amendments.

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as indefinite.

Accordingly, claims 1-9 have been amended to correct the noted instances of indefiniteness. The meaning of the term "downstream" is clearly understood from the specification and the claim language as referring to the order of the arrangement of the elements of claims 1 and 2 in the order